

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 02210 280548Z

17

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 MMS-03 PER-05 ABF-01 RSC-01

DRC-01 /047 W

----- 091431

R 271440Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6866

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 2210

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, SA

SUBJECT: STAFF INCREASES FOR SAUDI ARABIA

REF: (A) JIDDA 5623 OF 12/20/73

(B) JIDDA A-8 OF 1/30/74

(C) TWINAM-BAHTI LETTER OF APRIL 4

(D) DAVIS LETTER OF APRIL 8 TO AMBASSADOR AKINS

SUMMARY: EMBASSY IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSIVENESS TO ITS REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT. PRIMARY SUPPORT NEEDS NOW ARE FOR ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL OFFICERS TO SERVE IN JIDDA, RIYADH, AND DHAHRAN; AND FOR TWO ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SERVICE SECRETARIES. EMBASSY HOPES TO BE INFORMED AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST FOR SUCH POSITIONS IS CONSIDERED BY CONGRESS. IF SUCH POSITIONS ESTABLISHED, DECREASE IN HARD-SHIP DIFFERENTIALS, IF IT GOES THROUGH, WILL CERTAINLY PLACE GREATER DEMANDS UPON PERSUASIVENESS OF PLACEMENT OFFICERS. BUT IN VIEW OF SAUDI ARABIA'S GREAT AND INCREASING IMPORTANCE TO US WE BELIEVE A CLEAR AND VALID APPEAL CAN BE MADE TO THE NEEDS OF THE SERVICE. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUED RESPONSIVENESS PER REFERENCES (C) AND (D) TO EMBASSY'S REQUESTS FOR INCREASES IN EMBASSY BUDGET AND STAFF. PARTICULARLY WELCOME HAVE BEEN RAISING OF JIDDA'S POST CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JIDDA 02210 280548Z

FROM III TO II, AND ADEQUATE ADDITIONAL TRAVEL AND OVER-

TIME AND SOME REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS.

2. PRINCIPLE NEEDS FOR DEPARTMENT OF STATE OPERATIONS IN SAUDI ARABIA NOW CONCERN ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL POSITIONS IN JIDDA, DHAHRAN, AND OPENING OF AN EMBASSY PRESENCE IN RIYADH. WE NOTE PER REF (D) THESE MATTERS INCORPORATED IN DEPARTMENT'S SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REQUESTS AND WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF REQUESTS' PROGRESS AND RECEPTION BY CONGRESS.

3. WITH RESPECT TO REF (D) NOTE THAT DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED OF CONGRESS "ADDITIONAL THREE AMERICAN... POSITIONS" FOR SAUDI ARABIA. REFS (A) AND (B) HAVE SPOKEN IN TERMS OF TOTAL OF 4 OFFICERS OF WHOM TWO WOULD SERVE IN JIDDA, ONE AS DPO IN DHAHRAN. FOURTH OFFICER WOULD ESTABLISH EMBASSY PRESENCE IN RIYADH. WE HOPE A TOTAL OF FOUR MAY ULTIMATELY BE FORTHCOMING BUT ATTACH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO ARRIVAL OF AT LEAST THREE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. REF (D) DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION ADDITIONAL AMERICAN SECRETARIES, BUT WE ASSUME THIS ALSO UNDER CONSIDERATION. AMBASSADOR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT, COUNSELOR SABBAGH, IS WITHOUT A SECRETARY, AND IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH EMBASSY SECRETARIES WORKED MORE THAN 300 HOURS OF OVERTIME, OF WHICH 54 WERE VOLUNTARY AND UNCOMPENSATED. SOME PART-TIME ASSISTANCE WILL BE FORTHCOMING FROM NEW PSO'S SECRETARY, BUT IF EMBASSY JIDDA'S STAFF INCREASES BY 2-3 OFFICERS, WORK LOAD COULD NOT BE BORNE BY PRESENT STAFF. WE AWARE OF DEPT'S 70553, BUT IF ANOTHER SECRETARIAL POSITION IS FORTHCOMING, C&R WORKER SANDRA SIVERSON WOULD STILL BE INTERESTED IN SUCH AN ASSIGNMENT. SUCH A SHIFT WOULD HAVE POST'S FULL SUPPORT AS WELL, PROVIDED NO LONG-TERM GAP WAS CREATED IN C&R. (WE ASSUME TREASURY ATTACHE, IF APPOINTED PER JIDDA'S 1540, WOULD BRING HIS OWN SECRETARY.)

5. AS FOR FILLING OF NEW OFFICER POSITIONS, WE ARE AWARE THIS WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN BEFORE BECAUSE OF REDUCTION IN DHAHRAN'S DIFFERENTIAL TO 15 PERCENT AND A POSSIBLE REDUCTION ALSO IN JIDDA'S. (WE TRUST THERE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 JIDDA 02210 280548Z

LITTLE FOUNDATION TO STATEMENT IN LATEST FSJ THAT DIFFERENTIALS HAVE BEEN ARBITRARILY REDUCED WORLDWIDE PER DECISION OF OMB.) REGARDLESS OF DIFFERENTIAL FOR SAUDI ARABIA, HOWEVER, THE IMPORTANCE OF WORK IN THIS COUNTRY TO THE FUTURE INTERESTS OF THE US IS GREAT. WE DO NOT WISH TO BELABOR THIS POINT BY RECITING INFORMATION EASILY AVAILABLE ELSEWHERE BUT (A) IN COMING YEARS 50 PERCENT OF FREE WORLD'S INCREASED DEMANDS FOR PETROLEUM WILL

BE MET FROM SAUDI PRODUCTION, (B) BY 1980 SAUDI ARABIA
WILL HAVE EXCESS RESERVES THAT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY
EXCEED \$100 BILLION, AND (C) FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT OF
US-SAUDI AGREEMENT OF APRIL 5, SA WILL BE LOOKING TO
US FOR ADVICE AND THE CLOSEST SORT OF COOPERATION ON ALL
ASPECTS OF ECONOMICS AND DEVELOPMENT. IN CONSIDERING
THE ASSIGNMENT OF FIRST-CLASS OFFICERS TO SAUDI ARABIA,
THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO PLACE
A FULL AND PROPER EMPHASIS ON THE NEEDS OF THE SERVICE.

6. WE ALSO TRUST THAT APPROPRIATE NOTATIONS ARE STILL MADE
IN THE FILES OF OFFICERS WHO REFUSE HARSHIP
ASSIGNMENTS.

AKINS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JIDDA02210
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740101-0162
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974048/aaaaagxp.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) JIDDA 5623 OF 12/20/73
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by BryanSD>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAFF INCREASES FOR SAUDI ARABIA
TAGS: APER, SA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005